

1969

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT



BY

ALISON M. BATTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL REPORT
of
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
including the Report of
THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1969

.....

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County Hall,
Newport,
Isle of Wight

Tel: Newport 4031

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council :

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for 1969.

The Birth Rate rose from 12.8 to 14.1. Out of 254 live births 19 were illegitimate.

The Death Rate fell from 17.5 to 15.2.

The Infant Mortality Rate fell from 8.7 to 7.9.

No cases of food poisoning, diphtheria or polio-myelitis were notified and no deaths were attributed to tuberculosis. Two cases of suicide were recorded during the year.

Removal of persons in need of care and attention.

It was necessary to remove two elderly ladies from their homes during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Water Supplies.

The water supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity. No contamination occurred. The water is hard and not liable to be plumbo-solvent.

Fluoridation of Water Supplies.

As a result of a report of fluoridation studies over a period of eleven years this matter was again to the forefront in 1969. It would appear that there is considerable ignorance of the basic facts about this subject especially in view of the mountain of literature always forwarded to members of local authorities by the very vocal "anti" group.

"Fluoridation" is the adjustment in our water supply where it is deficient in this mineral up to the level of one part of fluoride to one million parts of water (1 p.p.m.)

Whenever this has been done (or where the naturally occurring level is 1 p.p.m. or above) it has been found that dental decay in children has been greatly reduced.

To date not one single case of disease or illness has been found to be due to fluoridation. In fact evidence shows that it reduces the incidence of bone fractures in old people and also reduces the hardening of arteries. A resolution was passed unanimously by the World Health Organisation (a resolution supported by such widely differing countries as Great Britain, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.) calling on all member States to introduce fluoridation.

Fluoridation adds no taste, smell or colour, has no effect on any industrial process and is very cheap.

The "antifluoridationists" having failed to prove any case of illness due to fluoridation are now trying to scare us by linking up fluoridation with worry about other substances like D.D.T. and cyclamates, etc. all of which are complicated manufactured substances: whereas fluoride occurs naturally in water supplies, ~~it is~~ it is merely the amount that varies. Many areas have water that already contains fluoride in much higher concentrations than the 1 p.p.m. recommended and the people who habitually drink such water suffer no ill effects. In fact many have not only drunk it all their lives but generations past have also drunk it - sufficient evidence in itself of its harmlessness.

The other 'tactic' of the "antis" is to fall back on the emotional cry that fluoridation is mass medication. This is absolute nonsense. It is merely adjustment of a naturally occurring substance to the level found most beneficial.

Finally for those who say it only benefits children (and there seem to be many), please remember children will one day be adults, and how much better to be an adult with only a few fillings, than like the average adult today who not only usually has many fillings but may have many gaps or even dentures!

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors

Your obedient Servant

ALISON M. BATTEN

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :-

ALISON M. BATTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :-

D.J. SULLIVAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :-

E.H. EVANS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk :-

MISS J.A. SQUIBB

Rodent Operative :-

C.A.F. MORRIS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	5,542
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1969)	per	rate	books	6,535
Rateable value as at 1.4.69	..	...	...	£670,385
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1968-69)	..	...	...	£2,665

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Annual Estimate)	..	18,000
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (crude)	..	14.1
Comparative factor (births)...	...	1.19
Comparative Birth Rate	...	16.8
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births	...	19.3
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	..	15.2
Comparative factor (deaths)...	...	0.83
Comparative Death Rate	...	12.6
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	Nil
Infant Mortality Rates :-		
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	7.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	..	8.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	53
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)...	...	Nil

BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 254 of which 235 were legitimate and 19 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 14.1 per 1,000 living: the birth rate for England and Wales being 16.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The Infantile Mortality rate was 7.9 per 1,000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 18.0

DEATHS

The number of deaths was 274 giving a death rate of 15.2 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.9

Causes of death attributed to Cowes residents were as follows :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	1	1
Syphilis and its sequelæ ...	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, Oesophagus...	1	1
" " , stomach ...	5	2
" " , intestine ...	3	5
" " , lung, bronchus	13	3
" " , breast ...	-	5
" " , uterus ...	-	1
" " , prostate ...	4	-
Leukaemia ...	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	4	6
Diabetes mellitus ...	1	4
Anaemias ...	2	-
Other diseases of blood, etc. ...	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	2
Hypertensive disease ...	4	3
Ischaemic heart disease ...	42	26
Other forms of heart disease ...	13	7
Cerebrovascular disease ...	16	21
Other diseases of circulatory system	5	4
Influenza ...	6	2
Pneumonia ...	2	7
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	9	2
Asthma ...	1	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3
Peptic ulcer ...	1	1
Appendicitis ...	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	1	-
Cirrhosis of liver ..	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	3	6

continued.

Causes of death (continued)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	-	1
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	-	1
Congenital anomalies ...	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents ...	3	-
All other accidents ...	-	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	1
TOTAL: All Causes ...	150	124

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
received during the Year 1969

<u>Ages</u>				<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Infective Jaundice</u>	<u>Tuberculosis</u>	
								<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Under 1 year				-	-	1	-	-	-
1 & under	2			-	-	10	-	-	-
2 "	"	3		-	-	23	-	-	-
3 "	"	4		1	-	26	-	-	-
4 "	"	5		2	-	24	-	-	-
5 "	"	10		-	2	94	-	-	-
10 "	"	15		-	-	2	-	-	-
15 "	"	25		-	-	2	-	-	-
25 "	"	45		-	-	-	-	-	-
45 "	"	55		-	-	-	1	-	1
55 "	"	65		-	-	-	-	1	-
65 "	"	75		-	-	1	1	-	-
75 yrs. & over				-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :				3	2	183	2	1	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

There was no change in the staff of the Public Health department during the year.

No slum clearance action was taken due to the demands made on re-housing by the proposed enlargement of the Temperance Terrace car park. One Closing Order was determined following voluntary reconditioning of the property by the owner.

It was not found necessary to resort to legal proceedings during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN THE AREA

These totals represent all inspections and other visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

Number of dwelling houses inspected (first inspection) ...	1,228
Number of dwelling houses inspected (re-inspection) ...	1,376
Other inspections (first inspection) ..	742
Other inspections (re-inspection) ...	841
Ineffectual visits ...	427
TOTAL :	<u>4,614</u>

NOTICES SERVED

	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Public Health Acts ...	118	3
Housing Act, 1957 (Section 9) ...	1	-
Housing Act, 1964 (Section 19) ...	-	-
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960 made under Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ...	6	-
Factories Act, 1961 ...	4	-
Clean Air Act, 1956 ...	1	-
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	60	4
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 ...	1	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	-	-
Notices complied with ...	53	-

LETTERS RE:

Housing Management ...	4
Improvement Grants ...	5

DETAILS AND NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Premises inspected for nuisances	...	1,232
Verminous premises	...	130
Other insects	...	1
Ponds, ditches and watercourses	...	4
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans	...	35
Animals, pigs, poultry	...	39
Dustbins	...	3
Accumulations of refuse	...	99
Drainage tested and inspected	...	469
Yards, passages, car parks	...	4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries and collections	...	6
Food poisoning	...	Nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT and FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Cafes and Restaurants	...	124
Butchers' shops	...	81
Fish shops	...	17
Fried Fish shops	...	7
Greengrocers	...	28
Grocers	...	104
Bakehouses	...	14
Licensed premises	...	64
Wholesale meat premises	...	39
Ice-cream shops, premises and vehicles	...	12
Cooked meat shops	...	7
Other food premises	...	13
Unsound food	...	118

SAMPLING

Ice-cream sampling	...	40
Water sampling	...	18

HOUSING ACTS

1964 - Section 19 Inspections	...	Nil
1957 - Section 9 Inspections	...	Nil
1957 - Section 16 Inspections	...	Nil
Overcrowding	...	Nil
Inspections re Clearance Area	...	Nil

FACTORIES ACT

Inspections and enquiries (Mechanical power)	20
Inspections and enquiries (Non-mechanical power)	6

DETAILS AND NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS (continued)

CLEAN AIR ACT

Observations and visits	56
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SHOPS ACT

Inspections and enquiries	22
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COUNCIL HOUSES

Inspections	226
Housing applicants	156
Housing enquiries	124
Conditions of tenancy	...	...	23

MISCELLANEOUS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act			251
Visits to owners or builders	...	...	216
Improvement Grants	...	...	193
Noise Abatement Act	...	...	39
Holiday Camps, etc.	...	...	33
Public conveniences	...	...	25
Schools	...	...	20
Rodent Control	...	...	18
Searches (Land Registry)	...	...	17
Bathing establishments	...	...	13
Food complaints	...	...	12
Hairdressers' premises	...	...	4
Farms	...	...	2
Beaches	...	...	2
Pet Animals Act	...	...	1
Ineffectual visits	...	...	427
Rent Act (including Certificates of Disrepair)			Nil
National Assistance Act	...	...	Nil
Heating Appliances Regulations	...	...	Nil
Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles Regulations			Nil
Fairs	...	...	Nil
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	Nil

4,614

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The Public Health Inspectors continued their general duties of investigating complaints, securing the abatement of statutory nuisances and dealing with contraventions of the Public Health and other Acts. In this connection 912 complaints were received from members of the public.

Particulars of the various nuisances and defects remedied in properties totalling 552 are tabulated below :-

Septic tanks and cesspools emptied	...	157
Defective and/or choked drains remedied	...	87
Gutters, roofs and rainwater pipes repaired	...	83
Dampness remedied	...	74
Doors, windows, frames, floors, sashcords repaired	...	60
Decorations in food premises	...	21
Wall and ceiling plasters repaired	...	20
Water closets and flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	18
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	10
Defective walls and pointing repaired	...	6
Sinks	...	5
Water services	...	4
Grates, flues, chimneys repaired	...	3
Yard paving	...	3
Vermin eradicated	...	1

RODENT CONTROL

Five-hundred and thirty-eight complaints of infestation by rodents were made to the Public Health Department during the year and the following inspections and treatments were carried out :-

	Private Houses	Business Premises		Council Owned Premises		Agricultural Premises		Hospitals and Schools
		C	N/C	DH	OP	C	N/C	
<u>Initial visits:</u>								
Rats	428	135	147	53	78	49	42	19
Mice	88	57	16	17	9	2	-	8
Totals: ..	516	192	163	70	87	51	42	27
<u>Revisits:</u>								
Rats	1333	301	58	156	174	184	-	15
Mice	325	145	11	53	26	4	-	18
Totals: ..	1658	446	69	209	200	188	-	33
Grand Totals:..	2174	638	232	279	287	239	42	60

C - Contract. N/C - Non-Contract.
DH - Dwelling House. OP - Other premises

RODENT CONTROL (continued)

Seven-hundred and one minor rat infestations and 135 minor mice infestations were dealt with. There were no major infestations. No sewer treatment was carried out during the year.

After treatment by poisoning with Warfarin the bodies of 393 rats and 92 mice were recovered and destroyed. No evidence of immunity against Warfarin was apparent.

VERMIN AND INSECT CONTROL

No charge is made by this authority for general disinfection services.

Cockroaches, beetles, woodlice, silverfish, ants, etc., were dealt with in 49 cases. One case of body lice, rather unusual in these days, proved rather persistent and necessitated a further treatment. 19 cases of flea infestation occurred and were successfully treated. 53 wasps nests were destroyed.

DRAINAGE

(a) General

Four-hundred and sixty-nine inspections were made in connection with examination, testing and supervision of repairs and renewals of existing drainage.

(b) Public Sewers Vested in the Local Authority.

Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, governs the procedure in connection with these combined drains and clearance of 16 stoppages in public sewers - draining 48 houses - was carried out at the expense of the Local Authority.

HOUSING

An abstract from the statement to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in the form of quarterly returns is summarised below :-

Housing Act, 1957

1. Houses demolished or closed.

Demolished or closed as a result of formal or informal procedure :-

Closed	...	...	Nil
Demolished	...	...	Nil

HOUSING (continued)

Housing Act, 1957

2. Repairs

Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action under the housing and Public Health Acts.

... Nil ...

3. Public Health Act. Formal Action

Houses in which defects were remedied :-

(a)	by Owners	...	...	...	3
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners				Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957. Formal Action

(a)	by Owners	...	...	...	1
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners				Nil

COUNCIL HOUSING

The practice of dividing the administration of this work between the Clerk's Department and the Public Health Department continues as in previous years.

Four-hundred and twenty-nine visits and inspections were carried out in connection with all housing management matters delegated to the department. This figure included 226 inspections of houses to determine their condition of repair, overcrowding, decoration, observance of Conditions of Tenancy and whether the premises were maintained in a cleanly condition.

The number of new houses built within the Urban District during the year was as follows :-

Local Authority	..	Nil
Housing Associations	..	Nil
Private Enterprise	..	260

RENT ACT, 1957

No application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in this District.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

No application for Discretionary Grant was approved during the year.

60 applications for Standard Grants were approved.

A breakdown of the details of facilities provided during the year, not of the 60 newly approved applications, but of the work actually carried out as the result of 51 previous and current approvals, is appended :-

Amenities provided

(a)	Fixed Bath	...	...	...	39
(b)	Shower	...	...	...	2
(c)	Wash-hand basin	...	...	...	41
(d)	Hot water supply (to any fittings)	...	...	...	51
(e)	Water Closet	(1) within the dwelling	...	...	38
		(2) accessible from the dwelling	...	...	Nil
(f)	Food Store	...	...	...	43

The following payments were made during the year :-

Discretionary Grants: 2	Total cost - £ 730. 0s. 0d.
Standard Grants: 51	Total cost - £7,040. 4s. 1d.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of premises subject to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations is appended, all of which, with the exception of Confectionary (sweets) shops where Regulation 19 is not applicable, are fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the 1960 Regulations :-

Cafes, Restaurants, Kiosks, Canteens	...	40
Butchers' shops	...	16
Fishmongers, poulterers and fried fish shops	...	8
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	15
Grocers	...	60
Bakehouses, bakers and Confectioners	...	10
Cooked meat shops	...	6
Licensed premises	...	37
Meat storage depots	...	4
Hotels and clubs	...	14
Confectioners (sweets)	...	23

Six-hundred and twenty-eight visits and inspections were made of these food premises

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES (continued)

The following items included in informal notices indicate the defects and contraventions found as a result of the original inspections :-

Number of notices served	11
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Defects and contraventions specified in notices:-

Artificial lighting	Nil
Hot water supplies installed	...	...	2
Decorations	...	...	21
Cleansing	...	...	6
New sinks installed	...	...	4
Dustbin provided	...	...	7
Water closets and/or flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	2
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	4
Wall and ceiling plasters repaired	..	...	16
Wash hand basins installed	...	...	Nil
Protection of food	...	...	2
First Aid materials	...	...	4

POULTRY INSPECTION

There is only one processing establishment in this area, which produces approximately 600 turkeys for the Christmas trade.

The birds are bought as "poults" in late August or early September.

Although the birds are killed - by neck wringing - on the farm, all evisceration and dressing is done at one of the producer's local shops at which all facilities required by the Food Hygiene Regulations are available.

Eighteen visits were made, to the farm during the development of the stock and to the shop during the time of being prepared for sale.

No birds were rejected as being unfit for human consumption at or after the time of slaughter.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

Twelve complaints of food alleged to be unfit for human consumption were received during the year.

1. Evaporated Milk alleged to be unsound

The complainant alleged that a tin of Evaporated milk bought at a local store was unfit. When visited

FOOD COMPLAINTS (continued)

the complainant could only produce an empty tin which appeared to be in good order. No action could be taken.

2. Foreign body in Pork Pie.

This was a plastic object resembling a golf tee found in a pie made by a well-known manufacturer. The firm's Quality Control Manager came to Cowes but could throw no light on the occurrence, unless there had been sabotage in the factory.

3. Mouldy Loaf of Bread.

A wrapped loaf bought locally was alleged to have been mouldy at the time of sale. It was not presented for inspection at the office until three days later and on examination was found to be mouldy.

In view of the time of year (June), the temperature at that time, and the delay in examination no action could be taken. A Quality Control Representative of the mainland Manufacturers came to Cowes the same day to examine the loaf and also check generally on their distributive methods.

4. Grease in Bread

A cut sliced loaf was found to contain baked grease from the guillotine machine. Verbal warning to the manufacturers.

5. Rubber Knob in Steak and Kidney Pudding

A steak and kidney pudding bought locally on 19th. June was alleged to contain a rubber knob, apparently part of machinery. The complainant wrote to the firm, but on receiving no reply brought the object to the office on 2nd July. Owing to this time lag and lack of other evidence no official action could be taken. The firm concerned advised that they had instructed their Island Representative to contact the complainant on receiving the complaint, but he had not done so.

6. Burnt Baking Grease.

A cut sliced loaf was found to be contaminated with baking grease. Verbal warning to the manufacturers.

7. Alleged Maggots in Cornish Pasty

Three Cornish Pasties were purchased locally, but only one was alleged to contain maggots. They were bought on 28th June but no complaint was made to this office until 10th July. Enquiries were made at the shop but no other complaint had been received. It is very probable that the alleged maggots were dried shredded onion used in the making of these pasties.

8. Swiss Roll tasting of Cellulose Thinners

This was a Swiss Roll sealed in a cellophane wrapping bought from a roundsman. It tasted and smelt of Cellulose Thinners. Exhaustive enquiries at the bakehouse, on the roundsman and his van and also at the house, all proved negative. No other Swiss Roll on the round was affected.

9. Grease in Bread.

A small portion of burnt baking grease was found in a loaf of bread. Verbal warning to the manufacturers.

10. Spent Match in Stick of Rock.

A visitor bought a stick of rock in Cowes and on chopping it up found a spent match embedded inside. The rock was made on the mainland. Owing to the time lapse and also a refusal on the part of the complainant to appear in Court, no official action could be taken. The firm were warned by letter and also visited by the Inspector for the area where the rock is manufactured.

11. Tin of Corned Beef alleged to be unfit.

The meat on inspection a day after was in good condition. There was no evidence of a damaged tin. All similar corned beef remaining in the retail shop was examined with negative result.

12. Dirty Milk Bottle.

Bottle left on doorstep, after opening found to contain an alleged mould on the bottom. This was found to be cement adhering to the bottom of the bottle.

The complainant declined to make a statement and the firm were unofficially warned.

FOOD POISONING

No case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year.

UN SOUND FOOD

The amounts of various foods which were condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered during the year under review are given below :-

Tins and jars of fish, fruit, vegetables, milk and cooked meats,
to a total weight of: 16 cwt. 0 gr. 0 st. 5 lbs. 0 oz.

Frozen Foods: 12 cwt. 0 gr. 1 st. 3 lbs. 0 oz.

Meat and Offal: 7 cwt. 0 gr. 1 st. 6 lbs. 0 oz.

TOTAL : 1 ton 15 cwt. 0 gr. 3 st. 0 lbs. 0 ozs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) MILK

There are 60 registered milk dealers and 5 Dairies in the District.

Samples of milk were taken during the year from herds whose milk is retailed raw without heat treatment. These samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth for the presence of live Tubercle Bacilli.

Number of samples taken for T.B. during 1969 ..	64
" " " found to be positive ...	Nil
" " " found to be negative ...	64
" " " in which Brucella Abortus was isolated ...	2

(b) ICE-CREAM

The number of premises registered in this district for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream is 122 although there are now no actual manufacturers.

Ten new registrations were made during 1969.

Forty samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, the results of which were as follows :-

Grade 1	...	26 samples
Grade II	...	13 samples
Grade III	...	1 sample
Grade IV	...	Nil

Samples falling within Grades 1 and II are regarded as satisfactory. The one Grade III sample was thought to be due to old stock being used. The Ministry's yardstick that 80% of samples should fall within Grades 1 and II was maintained.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

There are now 322 registered shops in the district.

Twenty-two inspections were made under the Act which included evening and Sunday observations in connection with "Closing Hours". In this particular connection the Local Authority exercise delegated powers from the Isle of Wight County Council.

On no occasion was it found necessary to serve a notice for any contravention of the Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is an extract from the Annual Report supplied to the Department of Employment and Productivity:-

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during year	No. of registered Premises		No. of persons employed
		at end of year	receiving a general inspection during year	
Office	2	42	2	184
Retail Shops	6	147	38	580
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	-	8	2	41
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	-	20	20	84
Fuel storage depots	-	3	-	6
TOTALS:	8	220	62	895

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (continued)

Of the total no. of persons employed, 301 are males and 594 females.

Total number of visits by Inspectors
to registered premises under the Act .. 251

Sixty informal notices were served during the year and 51 have been complied with.

Three minor accidents were reported, not necessitating formal action.

WATER SUPPLY

The mains water supply to the Cowes area is derived solely from the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority upon which all authorities on the Island are represented.

The supply is mainly from Carisbrooke except for the lower part of West Cowes which is supplied from the deep well at Broadfields Pumping Station. The reservoir at this station was cleaned out and overhauled at the beginning of the year.

Analyses of local water supplies show no evidence of plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are therefore necessary. There is a natural fluoride content of rather less than 0.1 part per million.

There are 6,535 dwelling houses in the area with an estimated population of 18,000 all of which are supplied from the mains.

Samples for bacteriological examination are taken regularly by the staff of the Water Authority and results sent to the Public Health Department. Where considered necessary check samples are arranged or taken by the Public Health Inspectors. The results of the 107 samples taken are shown in the ensuing table.

Satisfactory

West Cowes

Broadfields Well	...	...	10
Broadfields Reservoir	..	...	14
Low Level Area	...	...	16
Tower Area	15
Newport Direct Supply	17

East Cowes

Newport Direct Supply	35
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There were no Suspicious or Unsatisfactory results.

SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOLS

There are no swimming pools in the district open to the general public. An open air pool in the grounds of a Holiday Camp is in continuous use by camp visitors during the holiday season and for swimming instruction by two schools by special arrangement. A children's paddling pool adjoins the swimming pool. Samples taken during the summer generally give satisfactory results. Unfortunately this year four samples were taken and despatched to the Laboratory before it was discovered that vandals had broken into the pumping room the previous night or early in the morning of the day of sampling and turned off the chlorination plant. These four samples and one subsequent check sample were unsatisfactory. Once the plant had become fully operational again and had settled down to normal running conditions seven satisfactory samples were subsequently obtained.

The paddling pool at another holiday camp produced two satisfactory samples and one slightly contaminated. There is always a certain amount of mis-use by children throwing various objects into such pools accounting for the occasional slight contamination.

The indoor swimming pool at a local school functioned satisfactorily from May until October, four samples taken giving satisfactory results.

The Council's paddling pool on East Cowes Esplanade, in which the sea water is hand chlorinated daily with hypochlorite solution, had two satisfactory reports on samples taken.

SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOLS (continued)

In addition to the samples taken and sent to the Laboratory, frequent 'spot checks' on the chlorine content are taken on the various pools throughout the summer months so that adjustments can be made on the chlorination plant if found to be necessary.

NOISE

There is an increasing awareness of the intrusion of noise into modern living and it can be expected that complaints will increase in the future as people become more aware of the general rise in back-ground noise levels from the increased traffic on roads, aircraft, factory machinery, etc.

In general complaints can be expected where industry and dwellings are in close proximity, and the complaints received have been mainly from these areas. The local industries have been co-operative in reducing noise to a reasonable level when their attention has been drawn to particular noise sources, and it is hoped such co-operation will continue.

CARAVAN SITES

There are five licensed Caravan sites in the area, three at West Cowes and two at East Cowes.

The permitted number of caravans on these sites is 175.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Local Authorities or "District Councils" as they are termed under the Factories Act, 1961, are responsible for administering the provisions relating to :-

Sanitary conveniences in all types of factories;

Cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation in non-mechanical power factories: and

Homework (Outworkers) - Conditions of premises in relation to health of outworkers.

A summary of the information required by the Department of Employment and Productivity follows :-

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	62	26	1
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	2	-	-
TOTAL:	66	26	1

2. Cases in which defects were found (if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred by H.M. Inspector
	Found	Remedied	
Want of cleanliness	6	6	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	1
Other Sections of the Act	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	-	-	-
TOTAL:	12	12	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (continued)

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Section 110 and 111)

Number of outworkers in August lists as required by
Sections 110(1)(c)(2)

Lampshades	90
Other class of work	2
			<hr/>
			92

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